

ASTON, COTE, SHIFFORD & CHIMNEY PARISH COUNCIL



AGENDA

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 5th March 2026, at 7.30pm, in the Ordish Room, at the Village Hall.

Councillors: You are hereby summoned to attend the above meeting for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting are asked to let the clerk know in advance of the meeting at clerk@astonoxon-pc.gov.uk. Please note item 6 on the agenda about Public Representation.

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The law allows the council's public meetings to be recorded, which includes filming, audio recording and photography. As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings, please let the Clerk know before the start of the meeting.

1. **Present**
2. **Apologies**
3. **Disclosure of interests on agenda items**
4. **To approve the minutes** of the Parish Council meeting on 5th February 2026.
5. **Meeting open for public representation** This is the only part of the meeting where members of the public are permitted to speak, and it must be about an item on the agenda. Parish Council's Standing Orders limit the time for this part of the meeting to 10 minutes in total (each member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes) unless otherwise directed by the Chairman of the meeting.
6. **WODC/OCC Matters** A brief update from the relevant WODC and OCC Councillor.
7. **Matters arising from previous meetings**
 - a) **Quick updates:**
 - i) **Traffic Calming** – deferred until results of VAS installations effects analysed.
 - ii) **Footpaths/Treescapes** – volunteers have been identified and will start in April 2026.
 - iii) **Thames Water** – are still working in Aston and Bampton on the storm overflow programme.
 - We needed to identify who is responsible for the culvert and OCC Highways have conformed that it is not their responsibility, it is that of the landowner. Councillor Ball is contacting the landowner in this respect.

- It was noted that enforcement is the responsibility of WODC; however, there is a limit to the fines that can be imposed.
 - Cllr Cosier to follow up on groundwater issues.
 - St Joseph's Court has been completed with a trench dug as far as the gates
 - iv) **Great Brook Bridge** – No update since last meeting.
 - First raised as an issue in 2015. Further concerns have been raised frequently ever since. The OCC Chief Exec has been shown the issue.
 - Barriers have been hit again. Clerk contacted Humza, Highway Engagement Officer at OCC and copied Cllr Ted Fenton and our MP. Humza has confirmed that the bridge is currently at the design stage, with construction due to commence Summer 2026. Due another general inspection December 2025.
 - Following contact from a resident of Chimney, our MP Charlie Maynard has been in contact with Sean Rooney, Head of Service – Highway Maintenance and Road Safety who has advised that the work on the bridge can only go ahead in the 2026/27 financial year if the design is completed by March 2026. This work has been given priority, but no guarantee of when it will be completed has been given. In the meantime, **and subject to budget**, OCC will review the visibility of the existing “Unsuitable for HGV’s” signage.
 - Our MP has contacted the Environment Agency about the Great Brook. The EA do not have any records of when they last contacted the riparian owners, but advise that it is up to these landowners to make their own judgement and decisions on maintenance.
 - v) **North Street** – District Cllr Cosier has been liaising with OCC resulting the road being repaired using a “Bobcat”! Larger potholes either side of the repair remain and are increasing in size.
 - vi) **Beddles Turn** - Raised with OCC Highways in 2018 and was most recently raised in February 2025.
 - vii) **Cote Mile Bridge** – No outstanding reports on Fix-My-Street.
 - viii) **Defibrillators** – Primary School – the RFO has identified a cabinet this is on order and; Brier Furlong (Aston Pottery) – Cllr Ball has followed up with Aston Pottery to confirm location and R LA Forte is contacting Stonewater to confirm funding.
 - ix) **Crossing on Cote Road between the end of Marsh Furlong and Poundfield Road.** Currently awaiting scheduling at OCC. OCC have confirmed that the Parish will be consulted.
 - x) **Appointment of 2 Allotment Trustees for the Aston and Cote Allotments.**
Resolution to appoint the one person that has expressed an interest.
 - xi) **OCC Grant Funding for Flood Management** - A re-submission of our request for Grant Funding for a flood management plan for the Parish has been submitted, as requested by James Feest OCC Flood Mitigation Officer. The Parish Council is awaiting quotes and James Feest OCC has been advised of current situation.
- b) **Data Loggers (water levels)** Cllr Outen to report
- c) **History Board Update** Cllr La Forte to report.
- d) **Anti-Social Behaviour:** None reported at time of agenda.

Correspondence – all correspondence by email.

8. PLANNING

New planning applications – None

Documents emailed to councillors for perusal prior to the meeting and available at:

<https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-permission/view-planning-applications/>

Update on Ongoing Planning Applications – For Information

22/00986/FUL Brier Furlong –

- It was reported that the first 18 houses are now occupied
- Request made for Thames Water to review the issues and for Grampian Conditions to be rephased so this can be enforced.
- Discussion with members of the public regarding the adoption of the road and the pumping station, and who is responsible for managing the drainage - as the issue is the connection to the foul water drains which in turn link to the unadopted pumping station.
- It was noted that enforcement of the planning conditions is inadequate.
- Awaiting TW response on how many drains are affected.
- Update from District Councillor - Drainage repairs to be carried out by Mears, then Thames Water can assess so that the County Council can then adopt the road.

15/01550/OUT Marsh Furlong –

- The former clerk spoke to the Brier Furlong site manager who confirmed that all connections to the pumping station for foul water at the back of Marsh Furlong had been finalised. Concerns were subsequently raised by residents following tests of the system at the end of July.
- WODC Planning have been advised, and the clerk has contacted Thames Water urgently again for clarification.
- As above, update from District Councillor - Drainage repairs to be carried out by Mears, then Thames Water can assess so that the County Council can then adopt the road.
- A resident alerted Parish and District Councillors to work being carried by OCC to remove a traffic calming build-out on the Marsh Furlong estate. Negotiations, led by Cllr Cosier, with OCC to have the build-out re-instated are ongoing.

25/00853/OUT North Farm

- The WODC Case Officer has accepted that the application is for '9+3' units not 12 and additional affordable housing should not be required. However, he still has to discuss this with the housing officer before this position is finalised.
- EA objected to connecting to foul water system but subsequently withdrew this objection. It was noted that the default would be to connect to mains water system.

24/02466/OUT Potential new development – Lone Star Land (land agents) – Planning application still outstanding.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Agency objected to the application and required another flood risk assessment is carried out; this is now complete, and they have withdrawn their objection.
<p>25/01247/OUT Land south of Bampton Road – Croudace. No decision made yet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant has submitted revised FRA. LLFA(OCC), EA and ourselves (with Technical Note) have all objected again. Biodiversity objection still extant. Repeated Thames Water responses inconsistent and incomplete.
<p>25/01702/FUL Proposed Mount Field Solar Farm – land between Bampton, Aston and Lew.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions with Bampton and Curbridge & Lew Parish Councils regarding the apportionment of any community benefit are ongoing – Aston and Curbridge and Lew have agreed a 42/42/16 split and have rejected Bampton’s revised claim from an equal third to a 35% Curbridge, 35% Aston and 30% Bampton split. Negotiations ongoing. EA has objected due to flood risk.
<p>25/01422FUL Land South of St James’s Court, North Street – not yet decided; objection agreed at Aug meeting.</p>

Update on previous planning application decisions.

Reference	25/02919/HHD
Alternative Reference	PP-14520432
Application Validated	Mon 01 Dec 2025
Address	The Paddock Cote Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2EG
Proposal	Erection of single storey side extension with roof lights, and associated works
Status	Decided
Decision	Approve
Decision Issued Date	Mon 09 Feb 2026

9. New Business

- a) Request from Aston Youth Football Club for a grant towards trophies for their Presentation Day. See application Clerk’s Briefing pages 7 – 10.
- b) Request from Community Trust that the Parish Council request the S106 monies for the Solar Panels installation at the village hall.
- c) Request from Community Trust for matched funding for the purchase of new chairs for the Village Hall. Clerk’s Briefing Page 5.
- d) Local Elections – 7th May 2026.
- e) New date for June PC meeting as Ordish Room is no longer available on 4th June.
- f) Funding request from the Community Trust for a footpath around the MUGA to the Village Hall including release of contingency for MUGA back to S106 Funds. Clerk’s Briefing page 6
- g) Aston Drainage Board – update.

10. Community Trust

- MUGA Update, with final payment to be agreed in principle (Resolution in Clerk's Briefing and subject to satisfactory completion).
- Path from MUGA to changing rooms.
- MUGA biodiversity conditions.
- Solar Panels
- Other infrastructure projects.

11. Parish infrastructure - To identify any current maintenance work required.

12. Governance – Policies for review and resolution – none this month

13. FINANCE -

- a) Report emailed to councillors with items for resolution.

14. Confidential Items

To resolve to exclude the press and the public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Verbal report on clerk recruitment with decisions on interview process and dates.

15. Parish councillors' and clerk's reports from meetings attended since last meeting.

16. Matters arising since publication of agenda/

Matters which councillors may wish to raise for inclusion on next agenda.
(For discussion only)

Date of next meeting: Thursday 2nd April 2026 at 7.30pm